

ARCTIC RESEARCH COMMISSION

\$1,450,000

The FY 2007 Budget Request for the Arctic Research Commission (ARC) is \$1.45 million, an increase of \$280,000, or 23.5 percent, over the FY 2006 Current Plan of \$1.17 million.

Arctic Research Commission Funding

(Dollars in Millions)

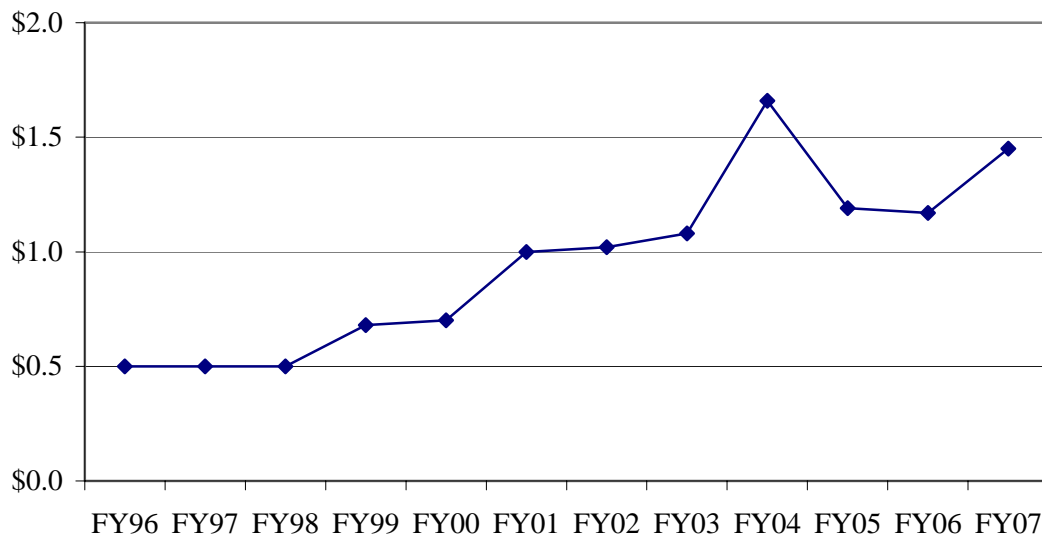
	FY 2006		FY 2007 Request	Change over FY 2006	
	FY 2005 Actual	Current Plan		Amount	Percent
Arctic Research Commission	\$1.19	\$1.17	\$1.45	\$0.28	23.5%

ARC is an independent federal agency, historically funded through NSF's appropriations, specifically within the Office of Polar Programs (OPP). The FY 2007 Budget Request proposes to provide a separate budget line for ARC within the Research and Related Activities (R&RA) appropriations account. This proposal is based on a number of factors, the most significant being the lack of explicit NSF authority to oversee the Commission's activities or to determine its funding level. In addition, several audits of ARC have recommended that the ARC budget be, at a minimum, a separate budget line in the R&RA account. Auditors were concerned as are the Commissioners that the Commission was not dealt with as an independent agency. The Commissioners also seek to dispel the misperception that the Commission draws funds away from research.

For the FY 2007 Budget Request, the OPP budget has been reduced by the amount of ARC funding for the years represented in the budget – FY 2005 through FY 2007.

ARC Subactivity Funding

(Dollars in Millions)



The United States Arctic Research Commission was established by the Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984, (as amended, P. L. 101-609), to establish the national policy, priorities, and goals necessary to construct a federal program plan for basic and applied scientific research with respect to the Arctic, including natural resources and materials, physical, biological and health sciences, and social and behavioral sciences. This request provides funds to promote Arctic research, to recommend Arctic research policy, and to communicate research and policy recommendations to the President and the Congress, as well as supporting close collaboration with the National Science Foundation as the lead agency responsible for implementing Arctic research policy and supporting cooperation and collaboration throughout the Federal Government. In addition, ARC gives guidance to the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee (IARPC) to develop national Arctic research projects and a five-year plan to implement those projects. ARC also supports interaction with Arctic residents, international Arctic research programs and organizations and local institutions including regional governments in order to obtain the broadest possible view of Arctic research needs.

The Arctic Research Commission is requesting an increase of \$280,000 above the FY 2006 Current Plan. The added funding will go to salaries – specifically increased funding for Commissioners salaries and to hire one additional FTE. Currently, there are 3 FTE funded, with a total authorized of 7 FTE. This funding will allow ARC to add one FTE, planned to be a GS-12 publication specialist in Anchorage, AK, to aid in the production of 2 additional reports.